

SEP 26 2006

US Appl. No. 10/613,481
Response to office action mailed August 11, 2006

Docket No. 204994

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application.

General

Claims 1-20 were pending in the application before this amendment. Claims 1-4, 9-12, and 15-20 are now canceled. Claim 5 is rewritten in independent form. Claims 5-8, 13, and 14 are pending in the application after this amendment.

No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 13 and 14 are allowed. Additionally, the Examiner has acknowledged that claims 5-8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form and is therefore deemed now to be allowable. Claims 6-8 are dependent from claim 5, and are therefore deemed now to be allowable as claims dependent from an allowable base claim. Applicant appreciates the indication of allowability.

35 U.S.C. §103(a) Claim Rejections

Claims 1-4, 9-12, and 15-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0044482 (Takeda) in view of Canadian Patent No. 2 291 430 (Lu). Claims 1-4, 9-12, and 15-20 are canceled, and the rejections are therefore moot.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the pending claims 5-8, 13, and 14. If any issues remain that preclude issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the applicant's attorney, Evelyn H. McConathy, at (215) 988-3361.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/26/06



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